

May 2009



**Ocean covers nearly three-fourths of the earth's surface, but only recently have some portions been set aside as protected areas to preserve pristine marine resources for future generations**

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- **World Ocean Conference 2009**
- **U.S. Support to the Coral Triangle Initiative**
- **Webliography**

## World Ocean Conference 2009

### About WOC 2009

The World Ocean Conference (WOC) in Manado on the 11th – 15th May 2009, is a forum for the world community to discuss current issues in the marine field which are related to climate change, and how the world can more wisely utilize the ocean to weather crises. Furthermore, WOC2009 is expected to create a more aligned global vision and commitments from participating governments and institutions to work together to improve marine resource management.

The conference will be attended by Ministers and High Level Government Officials as well as High Level Officials from Multilateral Organizations. (Source: <http://www.woc2009.org/>).

### U.S. Delegation to WOC 2009

The U.S. Government is sending a delegation of over 40 representatives to participate in the WOC2009.

Ms. Mary Glackin, Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, will lead the delegation, which is comprised of top U.S.-based researchers, scientists, technology experts and educators.

"I am very excited to have so many outstanding scientists and experts join me in representing the U.S. at the World Ocean Conference and Coral Triangle Initiative Summit in Manado," U.S. Ambassador Cameron R. Hume said. "We have an 'A-team' of ocean experts, drawn from government agencies, higher education institutions and the private sector, who have the expertise to address important scientific issues related to oceans and preserving marine biodiversity."

(Source: [http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/press\\_rel/May09/woc.html](http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/press_rel/May09/woc.html)).

## U.S. Support to the Coral Triangle Initiative

The Coral Triangle is a geographic area encompassing almost 6 million square kilometers of ocean and coastal waters in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific. The Coral Triangle is within the exclusive economic zones of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Timor Leste, and the Solomon Islands. Recognized as the global center of marine biological diversity, the region is home to some 363 million people, one third of who are directly dependent on coastal and marine resources for their livelihoods.

The Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) was proposed by President Yudhoyono in August 2007. CTI is a new multilateral partnership to safeguard the region's extraordinary marine and coastal biological resources. Twenty-one heads of state, including President Bush, welcomed the Initiative at the APEC Summit in September 2007. The CTI was officially launched in December 2007 during the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bali.

The six governments in the Coral Triangle (CT6 countries) are engaged in an ambitious process to finalize a Plan of Action to guide the CTI, which will be presented at the CTI Leaders' Summit, during the World Ocean Conference in Manado.

Recognizing the potential of the CTI to be a truly transformative regional initiative with far-reaching environmental and economic benefits, the United States has offered considerable financial, political, and technical support through both bilateral and multilateral channels.

USAID and the Department of State are supporting the CTI with a \$40 million five-year program implemented by a consortium of non-governmental organizations.

The governing Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to which the United States is the largest single donor, approved a four-year, \$63 million grant for an umbrella program in support of the CTI

(Source: [http://www.usaid.gov/rdma/documents/ECO-Asia\\_CTI\\_20090205.pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/rdma/documents/ECO-Asia_CTI_20090205.pdf)).

**DISCLAIMER:** Links to non-US Government Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views contained therein.

# Webliography

## U.S. Government Resources:



**Protecting the World's Oceans**  
<http://www.america.gov/oceans.html>

**Protecting the World's Oceans: A Timeline of Environmental Treaties**  
[http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/30145/env\\_time/](http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/30145/env_time/)

### NOAA's Coral Reef Information System

This portal to NOAA coral reef information and data products has a variety of datasets, reference resource and information on coral reef biology and environmental threats.  
<http://coris.noaa.gov/>

### National Oceanographic Data Center

This site provides public access to global oceanographic and coastal data, products and information  
<http://www.nodc.noaa.gov/>

### U.S Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs

The site presents policy statements, documents and press releases related to such topics as marine conservation, sustainable development, and global climate change  
<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/>

### Ocean Regulatory Programs

The site provides federal, state, and local laws and regulations on protection of the oceans and estuaries.  
<http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/regulatory/index.html>

### Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

This site provides information, maps, images and video about Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, the single largest conservation area under the U.S. flag, and one of the largest marine conservation areas in the world.  
<http://hawaiireef.noaa.gov/>

## Other Resources:

**World Ocean Conference 2009**  
<http://www.worc2009.org/>

### Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) Secretariat

The site provides information on CTI and coral reef related topics  
[http://www.cti-secretariat.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.cti-secretariat.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1)

### National Geographic Ocean Now

A project to study the last healthy, undisturbed places in the ocean. Follow Dr. Enric Sala and a team of scientists as they explore the pristine waters of the southern Line Islands.  
<http://ocean.nationalgeographic.com/>

### U.N.: Oceans and Law of the Sea

The United Nations website for the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs.  
<http://www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm>

### United Nations Atlas of the Oceans

The Internet portal providing information relevant to the sustainable development of the oceans.  
<http://www.oceansatlas.org/index.jsp>

### Ocean-Google Earth

Explore the ocean with Google Earth  
<http://earth.google.com/ocean/>

### Smithsonian National Museum-The San Ocean Hall

Marine biologist and TED prize winner Sylvia Earle gave an inspiring talk about the state of the ocean.  
[http://ocean.si.edu/ocean\\_hall/](http://ocean.si.edu/ocean_hall/)

### UNESCO-World Heritage Marine Program

The site provides information on UNESCO's program to safeguard the world's marine cultural and natural heritage  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/marine>

---

## Information Resource Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy Jakarta

The U.S. Embassy's Information Resource Center (IRC) in Jakarta is a specialized Reference and Research Library. Its goal is to provide accurate, up-to-date information to the public about topics such as U.S. foreign policy, legislation, social issues, economics and trade. High speed Internet computers, a printer and photocopier are provided at the IRC for library users. For all your information needs on the United States, please contact us.

Information Resource Center, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy Jakarta  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Selatan 3-5, Jakarta 10110  
Phone: 021-350-8467 | Fax: 021-350-846 | Email: [ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov)